

### PRESIDENT IS FOR SOCIAL SECURITY LOCKBOX

(Mr. HERGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, now even President Clinton is for a Social Security lockbox.

Just yesterday, the President said, "At a minimum, we should agree on a down payment on reform by passing a Social Security lockbox."

One hundred, fourteen days ago, House Republicans and Democrats passed my legislation, the Social Security and Medicare Safe Deposit Box Act 416-12. The House of Representatives is committed to not spending one dime of Social Security Trust Fund on unrelated programs, and now the President is on board there, as well.

Mr. Speaker, Senate Republicans have tried seven times to consider the Social Security lockbox, only to be blocked by Senate Democrats.

Mr. Speaker, it appears Senate Democrats are now the only obstacle to achieving a lockbox to protect Social Security surpluses.

### SENATE DEMOCRATS ARE SAVING REPUBLICANS

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, the Senate Democrats are saving the Republicans. Because if the lockbox that the gentleman from California (Mr. HERGER) talks about was enforced today, they would be under arrest for picking the lock and stealing the Social Security money out of it because they have already spent \$13 billion of Social Security money, and they keep saying they have a lockbox.

That is no lockbox. This is an open and revolving door. They have dipped into Social Security time and again in their appropriations bills.

The Congressional Budget Office tells us that already on the running account they have stolen \$13 billion of people's Social Security money, and in all likelihood it will be as high as \$25 billion in people's Social Security money.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans should remember that, under the Constitution, only they can spend the people's money. They have authorized, they have appropriated the expenditure of \$13 billion, \$13 billion of the people's Social Security money that they say is in the lockbox.

It is not in the lockbox. It is in the appropriations bills that they have been voting on day after day that exceed the request of the President of the United States. They are lucky that the police are not here arresting them today.

### PRESIDENT NEEDS TO SHOW US HIS SOCIAL SECURITY PLAN

(Mr. OSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, did my colleagues know that Americans today are living longer and having fewer children? This means, in the end, fewer workers in the future to support each Social Security beneficiary.

In 1960, there were 5.1 workers for every person on Social Security. Today that number stands at 3.4, and on our current pace, by the year 2030, that ratio will be down to 2.1. Let me repeat that. There will be two people supporting each Social Security beneficiary.

Mr. Speaker, we need to reform our current Social Security system, and we need to reform it as soon as possible. It has now been 294 days and counting since the President promised to provide reforms to the Social Security plan. He has not delivered.

As my good friends on the other side know, we cannot make up in volume what we lack in a plan.

There is no plan. The President has not given us his machine. Mr. Speaker, I am asking the President, finally, show us your plan.

### REPUBLICANS HAVE HANDS IN THE COOKIE JAR

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, the Republican leadership reminds me of the little boy who denies eating cookies even though his mouth is smeared with chocolate and his shirt is covered with crumbs.

According to their own accounting office, the Congressional Budget Office, the Republican leadership's budget already spends \$13 billion of the Social Security Trust Fund.

All of the sound and fury from the other side does not match the reality. Their hands are in the cookie jar and the Republican leadership is spending the Social Security surplus.

The Republican leadership has a long history of trying to undermine Social Security. The majority leader has called Social Security a "rotten trick" and said it should be "phased out."

This is the same party who, 60 years ago, fought fiercely to stop the creation of Social Security. They are still fighting now to spend the surplus and to see, in the long run, that it is phased out.

### SOCIAL SECURITY: PEOPLE'S RETIREMENT FUND NOT PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL SLUSH FUND

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address

the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, newspapers reported several days ago that the President has taken a new hard line with Republicans in Congress, saying that he will refuse to sign other spending measures until they address his priorities and "assure the Social Security surplus is being protected."

Being protected? Recently the President vetoed the foreign aid bill and has threatened to veto others because they do not spend more. But more of what?

Since the President has refused to accept our reasonable spending measures, he has only who choices left, either raise taxes or raid the Social Security Trust Fund, neither of which Congress will support, nor will I.

If President Clinton was sincere about protecting Social Security, he would sign into law the reasonable spending measures we have passed in Congress and sent to him.

Mr. Speaker, Social Security is the people's retirement fund, not the President's personal slush fund. Stop the raid on Social Security.

### REPUBLICANS ONLY NEED TO LOOK IN THE MIRROR FOR WHO IS SPENDING SOCIAL SECURITY SURPLUS

(Ms. RIVERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. RIVERS. Mr. Speaker, let us think about what we have been hearing this morning about attempts to spend Social Security.

First my colleagues on the other side say the President is trying to do it. But, of course, the facts are he cannot appropriate a dime, he does not have the ability. Only Congress, in fact, only the majority can do that.

Well, then they say it is the Democrats in Congress who are trying to spend the Social Security surplus. What are the facts? The minority cannot spend money on its own. Most appropriation bills are leaving the House passed with overwhelmingly Republican support.

Democrats cannot spend any money on their own. Well, say the Republicans, somebody is spending Social Security. Well, of course somebody is, and the Congressional Budget Office says it is the Republicans who are doing it. And of course the Congressional Budget Office is led by a Republican.

So if the Republicans are committed to finding out who is spending the Social Security surplus, I can tell them where to look. In the mirror.